

# The Morning Astorian.

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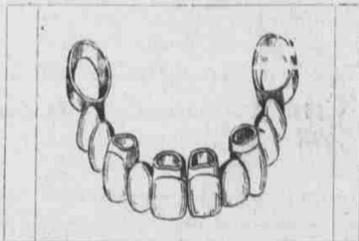
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## JOUBERT'S HEAVY GUNS KNOCKING AT LADYSMITH

The Pressing Boers Give the English no Respite from Fighting.

## THE BURGHERS HAVE TAKEN COLENZO

White Probably Entirely Cut Off From the Coast—Good Artillery Practice on Both Sides—Colonel Morely a Captured British Hussar Praises Treatment by Boers.

COLENZO, Natal, Nov. 2, noon, (delayed in transmission.)—Boers have commenced shelling Colenzo, their fire being directed against Fort Wylie, which defends Tugela-bridge.

LADYSMITH, Nov. 2, 10 a. m., (delayed in transmission.)—An artillery duel has been in progress since 6 o'clock this morning but so far no damage has been done, the British fire preventing the Boer guns from making good practice. Firing has been heard in the direction of Colenzo.

CAPE TOWN, Nov. 2, (delayed in transmission.)—A dispatch from Pretoria, under date of Tuesday, says Colonel Morely, who commanded the British Hussars captured by the Boers, declined, on being interviewed, to give any details of the misfortune, but praised the treatment he and his men had received at the hands of the Boers.

The British prisoners were playing football at the time their commander was being interviewed.

LONDON, Nov. 5.—The evacuation of Colenzo is undoubtedly a most serious matter for the British in Natal, as it not only testifies to the complete investment of Ladysmith by the Boers, but makes the relief of General Sir George Stewart White an extremely difficult operation.

Colenzo is the point where the railway from Ladysmith crosses Tugela river, which is now in flood. The town itself is of small importance. It is dominated by hills on the north side of the river, and so was untenable if the Boers have advanced as they seem to have done. Moreover, only a small naval and colonial force was stationed at Colenzo.

The seriousness of the evacuation, however, lies in the fact that Commandant General Joubert, while completely investing Sir George White at Ladysmith, can seize this Tugela bridge and, if he has sufficient troops, can detach a force and send it southward on Pietermaritzburg, and, in any case, by destroying the bridge and railway, can prevent any relief expedition reaching Sir George White for some time.

Military men optimistically predict that General Joubert will withdraw from Natal immediately when Sir Redvers Buller's force enters the Orange Free State, but the latter cannot be far on his way for at least three or four weeks.

### ARTILLERY AT WORK.

The Boers at Ladysmith Moving Into Closer Quarters.

LONDON, Nov. 5.—A dispatch from Ladysmith, dated November 2, says: "During the night the Boers moved near the British position and mounted guns in fresh places. Meanwhile the naval guns have been moved to more favorable positions nearer town and commanding some of the Boer batteries. "At 6 o'clock this morning General White ordered a bombardment of the enemy, and the bluejackets opened the ball.

"The Boers replied vigorously. They fired straight, and some of the British were hit. A terrible artillery duel has been proceeding for over three hours, so far the naval guns are the only ones that have engaged the enemy."

Another special dispatch from Ladysmith, dated November 2, says: "The artillery duel is proceeding splendidly. The British guns are firing three shots to the Boers' one."

A special dispatch from Cape Town, dated November 2, says the Boers oc-

cupied Coleburg, Cape Colony, Wednesday, meeting with no resistance from the local police, who yielded to superior force.

The steamer Kildon Castle left Southampton last evening. She is the largest troopship in the world, and has more than 3,000 souls on board.

### WHITE HOLDING OUT.

Reports of Contemplated Raid on Durban Described—Courtesies Between Opposing Armies.

LONDON, Nov. 4.—The fact that the British war office has received no news of the situation at Ladysmith seems to effectually dispose of yesterday's continual rumors of General White's capitulation and kindred stories, as if the general had sustained a severe reverse. There is no reason to believe that General Joubert would be only too glad to forward White's official announcement of the fact to the nearest telegraph station, while, it is added, had news of a serious character reached a foreign government in cipher it would undoubtedly promptly be conveyed to the British government.

The war office here is making every effort to communicate with Ladysmith, so news may arrive at any moment. Meanwhile the best opinion is satisfied that if White keeps strictly on the defensive, he will be able to hold his own. British experts smile at the Boer plan of campaign, which contemplates seizing Durban in order to prevent the landing of British troops there. They say it has one fatal defect, namely, that it ignores the British fleet, under whose guns, it is alleged, the seizure of Durban will be impossible.

The dispatches today show that the forces of the Orange Free State are at length prepared to invade Cape Colony. These forces are not overwhelming, but the Dutch in the neighborhood of Colesburg and Burghersdorp are exceptionally pro-Boer, and their support is evidently expected. The objective point of this force of Boers will probably be Naauvoort, one of the most important strategic railroad points in South Africa, which will probably be, it is said here, the first advanced depot of the Second division of the army corps. Naauvoort is understood to be well garrisoned and able to take care of itself. Trains thence to Colesburg have been almost suspended.

Dispatches from Ladysmith, though three days old, are regarded here as being more cheering and as indicating

that the Boers are not disposed to come to close quarters. On the other hand, some people assert it is more probable the Boers are recuperating prior to a fresh onslaught on Ladysmith, as, according to the latest news, after the artillery duels and ineffective skirmishes on Tuesday, the Boers took up good positions on Signal hill and Umbutwane mountain.

The two commanders continue to exchange courtesies. White, in response to Joubert's request Tuesday, lent the Boers an ambulance to assist in the conveyance of the Boer wounded.

Advices from Cape Town show the people there are beginning to realize the seriousness of the situation in Natal. Merchants are apprehensive of the Boers overrunning the entire country, and it is reported many have instructed their representatives to leave Pietermaritzburg.

### ANOTHER BOER MEETING.

Further Efforts to Arouse Sympathy in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Nov. 4.—A pro-Boer mass meeting, under the auspices of the Holland Society, which was temporarily abandoned two weeks ago, is being arranged now for Monday evening, November 13, at Central Music Hall.

Within the next week a call will be issued to the American public by the society asking contributions for the widows and orphans of the Boers who have given their lives in defense of their country.

### DECLINED WITH THANKS.

SANTA CRUZ, Cal., Nov. 4.—Major Gerrard of this place has received a cablegram from the British war secretary thanking him for his offer to raise a regiment of Englishmen in California for service in the Transvaal, but stating that owing to existing circumstances the offer cannot be accepted.

## THE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN ENDED

### FIGHT ON NATIONAL ISSUES

The Republican Ticket in Ohio May Suffer Heavily on Account of Sectional Quarrels.

CINCINNATI, Nov. 4.—Tonight practically closes the debate in Ohio in the campaign for the election of state and county officers. Six tickets are before the people—democratic, republican, non-partisan, prohibition, union reform and socialistic labor. The registration in all large cities is abnormally large for an election of this kind. How the vote will be distributed between McLean, Nash and Jones is not easy to predict at the close of the campaign.

An element that disturbs all calculations is the novel candidacy of Samuel M. Jones, non-partisan candidate. His phenomenal vote as an independent candidate for mayor of Toledo gave him wide publicity.

It is generally conceded that his vote will be considerable, and a puzzling question is from which party will he take the most votes. The republicans have made a vigorous campaign, with the leading idea that the president must be sustained in his Philippine policy.

That, indeed, has been the most prominent point of attack by the democrats, so that state issues, the money question and everything else has been generally ignored. The democrats have made a fight against trusts, and especially against Senator Hanna.

It does not appear that the gold democrats of 1896 will join the republicans this year, and the democrats are practically united, while the republicans have serious factional fights in Cincinnati, Cleveland and other places. With these conditions prevailing, it is impossible to do more than to pronounce the result in doubt.

### IN KENTUCKY.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Nov. 4.—The personality of W. Goebel, the regular nominee of the democratic party, has been the theme of discussion in the campaign more cheering and as indicating

## LONDON NOW EXPECTS LONG WEARY WAITING

It May Be Weeks Before the Fate of General White and His Men is Known.

## ENGLAND HAS A TREMENDOUS TASK

Britishers Begin to Realize That They are in For a Long Hard Struggle—A Troopship Returns to Liverpool Badly Damaged by Storms.

LONDON, Nov. 4.—The war office at noon today announced that nothing had been received there in any way modifying or altering the statement issued yesterday afternoon, saying belated dispatches from Ladysmith were coming through. Nothing has been received to corroborate the reiterated reports from Berlin of the capitulation of General White.

A dispatch to the Exchange Telegram Company, dated Cape Town November 1, announced that the Boers had entered Cape Colony at Norvals Pruit, destroying several bridges.

The British troop ship Papidan, which sailed for South Africa November 1, from Liverpool, is returning in a damaged condition, having encountered yesterday's storm. She signaled that her fittings were out of order, that several horses were dead and that three of her boats were stove in. She is going to Liverpool to be refitted.

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LONDON, Nov. 4.—Though the events of the week have aroused the spirit of the British nation to the utmost, and though its military escutcheon has been more stained than it ever was before, there seems to be ahead a still more crucial ordeal—that of suspense.

Days, perhaps weeks, may pass before word comes from the isolated British force in the neck of Natal, and the long wait will strain as does a death-bed watch, the eagerness to learn how the day went with the beleaguered being accompanied by an overpowering dread that they have shared the fate of those that fell at Nicholson's Nek.

Whatever may be the justice or otherwise of the criticisms passed on General White, it is palpable that he no longer possesses the confidence of the public. He may be fully able to withstand the attacks of a superior Boer force, and may be ready at any moment to execute a masterly retreat, but as long as he is cut off from communication with the outside world there will exist a terrible anxiety regarding the welfare of the seven or eight thousand men of his command.

The most optimistic believe that a

fortnight is the minimum in which reinforcements of any potentiality can be pushed to Ladysmith, and then it may be too late. It is this interim, embittered by the vivid memory of the recent disaster, which will try the temper of the British nation, which as a whole can be said to have embarked in the war with stupendous over-confidence, and which has now awakened to a re-formation of the fact that if General White's force is annihilated it will cause an indefinite prolongation of hostilities. It is said here, of course, that it can only defer, and not ally the result, and the British taxpayer, however patriotic, objects to a long drawn out war, especially when waged against people whom he has not been brought to believe immensely his inferior.

It is amusing to note how often the British correspondents report Boer guns knocked out of action, while next day the same guns are reported to be peppering away merrily.

The British army corps will not commence arriving at Cape Town until November 8, and will scarcely be able to take the field until the middle of December, though it is likely that some units will be busily engaged before then.

## The Proof



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(Continued on page 4.)